



Town of Wenham

Selectmen / Town Administrator
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Peter Lombardi, Town Administrator
RE: Town Administrator's Report
DATE: January 9, 2018

Age Friendly Community Initiative

This month, the Town is planning to take the first steps toward becoming an Age Friendly Community. This initiative is based on a model developed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Association of Retired Persons (AARP), and is designed to foster the exchange of experiences between residents and to pay increased attention to environmental, economic, and social factors that influence the health and well-being of older adults. The Wenham COA plans to complete and submit our application for this designation later this month, and will be conducting community outreach to get resident feedback in the coming months.

In trying to build an inclusive model, we have termed this effort "Wenham Connects", and we will be hosting our first listening session on January 24 here in Town Hall. We also plan to disseminate a survey in the next few months and will hold additional public forums in the spring. Ultimately, we will seek grant funding to assist in developing an action plan to determine how to best adapt and implement this concept to make a positive impact in Wenham by improving the quality of life for our older residents.

Fire-based EMS Program

We continue to experience delays in getting necessary billing approvals from Medicare, and have accordingly pushed back the start date of this one-year pilot program. At this time, the Fire Department has completed all other preparations to commence providing basic life support ambulance service in-house. As soon as we secure this last approval, we will provide information to residents regarding the new start date.

Barn Regulations

The Board of Health approved new barn sanitation regulations last month establishing standards for property maintenance and animal care as well as minimum setbacks of barns, structures, and animal waste. Existing conditions are exempt from these regulations and new applicants can apply for variances through the Board of Health if necessary. The regulations also establish fines for non-compliance. Effective April 1, 2018, these new

regulations have been filed with MassDEP and are posted on the Town website. All impacted residents were notified of these potential regulations during the review process and will receive a follow-up mailing later this month now that they have been finalized.